drug laws, improved coordination between drug law enforcement agencies in order to impart greater cohesion and multi agencies approach, increased international cooperation in intelligence collection, investigation and mutual legal assistance, bilateral agreements on drug related matters between a number of countries including Myanmar and border meeting between law enforcement agencies of India and Myanmar.

Handling of crimes against Foreign Nationals

1601. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CBI's Interpol Division has been designated as the nodal agency to handle crimes against foreign nationals in India; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the factors that influenced such a decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Domestic violence against women

†1602. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of incidents of exploitation of women, harassment of women, domestic violence, deaths of women due to dowry etc., during the last three years;

(b) whether Government propose to make more stringent laws to save the women from domestic violence and harassment; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to bring forward any Bill on this subject?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) The details of incidents of exploitation of women, sexual harassment of women, cruelty by husband and relatives, dowry deaths, etc. reported during 2001, 2002 and 2003 are giving in the Annexure. *[See* Appendix 204 Annexure No. 14]

(b) and (c) Domestic violence and harassment has been a cause of concern to the Government of India. The Protection from Domestic Violence

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Bill, 2002', having lapsed on the dissolution of the 13th Lok Sabha, has been revised taking into consideration the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Ministry of Human Resource Development in its 124th report and sent to the Ministry of Law and Justice for vetting and redrafting.

Private Security Agencies

1603. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that private security agencies in the country are mushrooming like anything;

(b) if so, whether Government have any details as to how many private agencies are working in the country;

(c) whether Government have any regulatory or legal framework to look into the various aspects of private security agencies in the country; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to enact a legislation to oversee the functioning of the private agencies in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) To regulate the functioning of the private security agencies, Central Government proposes to introduce a new Bill, namely the Private Security Agencies (Regulation) Bill, 2005 in the current session of the Parliament. In the Bill there is provision to make it mandatory to obtain a licence from the appropriate authority of the State Governments/Union Territory administration to run such agency. Only after such a system is put in place, the number of private security agencies will be known to the appropriate authority in the States/Union Territories along with the legal framework to over see the functioning of the security agencies.

Terrorist organization from Nepal operating in bordering areas

†1604. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the increasing activities of terrorist organizations of neighbouring country Nepal in the bordering areas of Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, what concrete measures have been taken to stop migration of these terrorist organizations; and

(c) the number of terrorists who have been arrested so far?